

Appl. No. : 09/852,971  
Filed : May 8, 2001

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1-9, 11-13, and 15-20 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of providing a portable information agent comprising:

presenting a graphical representation ~~associated with said~~ of a portable information agent as part of a ~~in a~~ first composition accessed by an initial application, said portable information agent comprising a software object, having state, and having one or more possible external connections, said first composition providing a first execution context for said portable information agent;

allowing relocation of said ~~graphical object~~ portable information agent to a location outside of said initial application; and

thereafter moving said portable information agent to said outside location such that said portable information agent becomes part of a second composition, said second composition providing a second execution context for said portable information agent in which, ~~preserving said~~ state of said portable information agent is preserved.

2. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein said portable information agent, once relocated, ~~will persists~~ and maintains said state after termination of said initial application.

3. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein said initial application ~~comprises~~ is a web browser and said first composition is part of a web page.

4. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein said initial application ~~is comprises~~ is an email client and said first composition is part of an email message.

5. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein said initial application ~~is comprises~~ is a desktop provided by an operating system.

6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein said relocation ~~may be~~ is repeatable ~~and~~ from a current location to any number of additional platforms.

7. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 5 wherein said desktop provided by an operating system ~~is comprises~~ is an interface of a platform, said platform selected from the group consisting of: a ~~windows~~ Windows PC, a Macintosh PC, a unix-type operating system, a set-top box, a wireless logic appliance, an internet appliance, a personal digital assistant, or ~~any~~ another device connected to a network.

Appl No. : 09/852,971  
Filed : May 8, 2001

8. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein said new location is selected from the group consisting of: a desktop provided~~ing~~ by an operating system,; a different application,; and a different computer platform with a different operating system.

9. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein said portable information agent includes one or more user interface components and wherein said interface components are preserved after a relocation.

10. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein said portable information agent includes one or more connections to one or more external entities and wherein said connections are preserved after a relocation.

11. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein said allowing relocation comprises allowing a user to select and drag said graphical ~~object~~representation.

12. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein said allowing relocation comprises allowing a user to discontinuously select said graphical ~~object~~ representation and place said ~~object~~ graphical representation in a new location.

13. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein said allowing relocation comprises allowing ~~a said graphical object~~ representation to move to a new location without an action by a user.

14. (Original) The method according to claim 10 wherein said one or more external entities are selected from the group consisting of: web servers, other applications, background processes, and other remote processes.

Appl. No. : 09/852,971  
Filed : May 8, 2001

15. (Currently Amended) A method of interacting with a portable information agent comprising:

providing a portable information agent object ~~in-as part of a~~ first composition accessed by an initial application, said portable information agent object comprising a software object, said first composition providing a first execution context for said portable information agent object;

allowing a user to select said portable information agent object and relocate said portable information agent object outside of said initial application;

upon detecting said relocating, determining if sufficient infrastructure logic exists to allow said portable information agent object to operate in a new location;

if said determining indicates that sufficient infrastructure does not exist, contacting an agent server to request necessary infrastructure logic;

downloading and installing necessary infrastructure logic; and

thereafter moving said ~~graphic object~~ portable information agent object to said new location such that said portable information agent object becomes part of a second composition that provides a second execution context for said portable information agent object.

16. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 15 wherein said initial application ~~is-comprises~~ a web browser and said first composition is-comprises a web page.

17. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 15 wherein said new location is selected from the group consisting of: a desktop ~~provided~~ ing by an operating system,; a different application, ~~and~~; a different computer platform with a different operating system.

18. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 15 wherein said portable information agent is associated with a graphic object constructed from presentation primitives that allow user interaction with said graphic object.

19. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 15 wherein said portable information agent ~~graphic agent~~ object includes logic allowing communication with a data server for tracking user interaction.

**Appl. No.** : **09/852,971**  
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20. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 19 wherein said ~~graphic~~  
portable information agent object and said infrastructure allow communication with a data server  
for tracking user interaction after said portable information agent object ~~is~~has been moved to a  
new location-~~desktop~~.